

land, necessary for the realignment of services and closure projects. The proposed project in Walla Walla is for construction of a Multi-Specialty Care Facility. The proposed project in Louisville is for the construction, including the acquisition of land, for a new medical facility.

The proposed project in Denver will provide for the replacement of the existing medical center. Additional authorization is required to complete this project. The proposed project in Bay Pines is for construction of both outpatient and inpatient improvements. Additional authorization is required to complete this project.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this legislative proposal to the Congress and that its enactment would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

ERIC K. SHINSEKI.

Enclosures.

#### SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1 authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to carry out three major medical facility projects. Authorization is requested for the construction, including acquisition of land, for realignment of services and closure projects in Livermore, California, in an amount not to exceed \$55,430,000. Authorization is requested for the construction of a Multi-Specialty Care Facility in Walla Walla, Washington, in an amount not to exceed \$71,400,000. Authorization is requested for the construction, including acquisition of land, for a new medical facility in Louisville, Kentucky, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000,000.

Section 2 authorizes the Secretary of VA to carry out two major medical facility projects. Previously, these campuses received authorization, but additional authorization is required to complete the construction projects on these campuses. In this regard, authorization is requested for replacement of the VAMC in Denver, Colorado, in an amount not to exceed \$800,000,000. Authorization is also requested for the construction of outpatient and inpatient improvements in Bay Pines, Florida, in an amount not to exceed \$194,400,000.

Section 3 authorizes the Secretary of VA to carry out major medical facility leases for an Outpatient Clinic in Anderson, South Carolina, in an amount not to exceed \$4,774,000; a Specialty Care Clinic in Atlanta, Georgia, in an amount not to exceed \$5,172,000; a Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Bakersfield, California, in an amount not to exceed \$3,464,000; an Annex Clinic and Parking Garage in Birmingham, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed \$6,279,000; a Health Care Center in Butler, Pennsylvania, in an amount not to exceed \$16,482,000; a Health Care Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed \$30,457,000; a Health Care Center in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed \$23,487,000; an Outpatient Clinic Expansion in Huntsville, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed \$4,374,000; a Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Kansas City, Kansas, in an amount not to exceed \$4,418,000; a Health Care Center in Loma Linda, California, in an amount not to exceed \$31,154,000; an Outpatient Clinic in McAllen, Texas, in an amount not to exceed \$4,444,000; a Health Care Center in Monterey, California, in an amount not to exceed \$11,628,000; a Health Care Center in Montgomery, Alabama, in an amount not to exceed \$9,943,000; an Outpatient Clinic in Tallahassee, Florida, in an amount not to exceed \$13,165,000; and, a Health Care Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in an amount not to exceed \$26,986,000.

Section 4 authorizes for appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010, \$201,830,000 from the Major Construction Projects account for the projects authorized in Section 1 and \$994,400,000 for the projects authorized in Section 2. Section 4 also authorizes for appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010, \$196,227,000 from the Medical Facilities account for the leases authorized in Section 3. Section 4 allows the projects authorized in Sections 1 and 2 to be carried out by using only 1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 2010 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection a; 2) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation; 3) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2010 that remain available for obligation; and 4) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for fiscal year 2010 for a category of activity not specific to a project.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1311. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand and strengthen cooperative efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the resource productivity, water quality, and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, today I introduce an important piece of legislation that will help protect and preserve the health and productivity of one of our Nation's most important bodies of water—the Gulf of Mexico.

The Gulf of Mexico Restoration and Protection Act will serve as a national and international model for the collaborative management of large marine ecosystems. Specific provisions of this Act will be administered by the Gulf of Mexico Program, formed in 1988 by the Environmental Protection Agency as a non-regulatory, inclusive partnership that collaborates with federal offices, state, and local governments and the private sector in each of 5 Gulf States—all committed to helping preserve and protect the Gulf.

Collectively, the fertile waters and seabed of the Gulf of Mexico represent the 6th largest economy in the world with a total economic trade value of almost \$6 trillion. These waters are now threatened by excessive nutrient loads and invasive species as well as the significant deterioration of many coastal wetlands as a result of hurricane and tropical storm damage.

The future of the Gulf's environmental stability is vital to America's economy and security. This legislation authorizes much needed additional funds to the Gulf of Mexico Program and finally puts it on a path toward more equal footing with other national great water body programs. Members of the Gulf of Mexico program are working together to secure the Gulf's future. It is time for this critical region to be recognized for its strategic importance. This legislation is an important step toward ensuring the Gulf receives the kind of support it deserves.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 193—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ALL IRANIAN CITIZENS WHO EMBRACE THE VALUES OF FREEDOM, HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND RULE OF LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KYL, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 193

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its support for all Iranian citizens who embrace the values of freedom, human rights, civil liberties, and rule of law;

(2) condemns the ongoing violence against demonstrators by the Government of Iran and pro-government militias, as well as the ongoing government suppression of independent electronic communication through interference with the Internet and cellphones; and

(3) affirms the universality of individual rights and the importance of democratic and fair elections.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 194—CONGRATULATING THE PITTSBURGH PENGUINS ON WINNING THE 2009 STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 194

Whereas, on June 12, 2009, the Pittsburgh Penguins defeated the Detroit Red Wings 2-to-1 in Game 7 of the National Hockey League Stanley Cup Finals;

Whereas the victory marks the Penguins' third Stanley Cup Championship in franchise history and capped off a historic playoff series;

Whereas the Penguins are just the second team in league history to win the seventh game of a Stanley Cup Championship series on the road after the home team won the first 6 games of the series;

Whereas the Penguins beat the Washington Capitals in the Eastern Conference Semifinals and the Detroit Red Wings in the Stanley Cup Championship after losing the first 2 games in both series, making the Penguins the only team in league history to rally from 2-to-0 series deficits twice in the same year;

Whereas Mario Lemieux is to be honored for his commitment to keeping the Penguins in Pittsburgh and passing along his legacy to a new generation of players and fans;

Whereas, in February 2009, the Penguins hired Head Coach Dan Bylsma from the Penguins' minor league franchise in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, making Bylsma the first coach in the history of the National Hockey League to begin a season coaching in the American Hockey League and finish a Stanley Cup champion;

Whereas Sidney Crosby, the youngest team captain to ever win the Stanley Cup, was third in scoring during the regular season, had a league-leading 15 playoff goals, and demonstrated leadership by taking the Penguins to the Stanley Cup Finals in 2 consecutive seasons;

Whereas, over the course of the playoffs, Evgeni Malkin led all players in scoring with

36 points, including 14 goals and 22 assists, and won the Conn Smythe trophy for most valuable player in the playoffs;

Whereas Max Talbot is to be commended for scoring the only 2 Penguins goals in the Game 7 victory over the Detroit Red Wings;

Whereas thousands of Penguins fans supported the team throughout the postseason, donning white t-shirts to create a "whiteout" effect at home games or gathering to watch the game on a big screen television outside Mellon Arena;

Whereas the Red Wings are to be commended for a terrific season, commitment to sportsmanship, and excellence on and off the ice; and

Whereas nearly 400,000 fans packed the streets of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 15, 2009, to honor the Penguins in a parade along Grant Street and the Boulevard of the Allies: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates—

(A) the Pittsburgh Penguins for winning the 2009 Stanley Cup Championship;

(B) Mario Lemieux and the coaching staff of the Penguins and support staff and recognizes their commitment to keeping the team in Pittsburgh;

(C) all Penguins fans who supported the team throughout the season; and

(D) the Detroit Red Wings on an outstanding season; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) co-owners Mario Lemieux and Ron Burkle;

(B) vice president and general manager Ray Shero; and

(C) head coach Dan Bylsma.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 195—RECOGNIZING BISHOP MUSEUM, THE NATION'S PREMIER SHOWCASE FOR HAWAIIAN CULTURE AND HISTORY, ON THE OCCASIONS OF ITS 120TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF ITS HISTORIC HALL

Mr. INOUE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 195

Whereas Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 in Honolulu, Hawai'i by Charles Reed Bishop in memory of his beloved wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, the great granddaughter of Kamehameha I, to house the personal legacies and bequests of the royal Kamehameha and Kalākau families;

Whereas the mission of Bishop Museum since its inception has been to study, preserve, and tell the stories of the cultures and natural history of Hawai'i and the Pacific;

Whereas the collections of Bishop Museum include more than 24,000,000 objects, collectively the largest Hawai'i and Pacific area collection in the world, which includes more than 1,200,000 cultural objects representing Native Hawaiian, Pacific Island, and Hawai'i immigrant life, more than 125,000 historical publications (including many in the Hawaiian language), more than 1,000,000 historical photographs, films, works of art, audio recordings, and manuscripts, and more than 22,000,000 plant and animal specimens;

Whereas a primary goal of Bishop Museum is to serve and represent the interests of Native Hawaiians by advancing Native Hawaiian culture and education, protecting the collections and increasing access to them, and strengthening the museum's connections with the schools of Hawai'i;

Whereas the national significance of Bishop Museum's cultural collection lies in the Native Hawaiian collection, which collectively represents the largest public resource in the world documenting a way of life, and has been a source of knowledge and inspiration for numerous visitors, researchers, students, native craftsmen, teachers, and community and spiritual leaders over the years, especially since the cultural revival, which has been steadily growing and gaining in popularity;

Whereas more than [300,000] people visit Bishop Museum each year to learn about Hawaiian culture and experience Hawaiian Hall;

Whereas the desire to see Hawaiian Hall and to learn about Hawaiian culture is the primary reason [400,000] visitors each year give for visiting Bishop Museum;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall is the Nation's only showcase of its size, proportion, design, and historic context that is devoted to the magnificent legacy of Hawai'i's kings and queens, and the legacies of its Native Hawaiian people of all walks of life and ages;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall, constructed between 1889 and 1903 and 1 of 3 interconnected structures known as the Hawaiian Hall Complex, is considered a masterpiece of late Victorian museum design with its Kamehameha blue stone exterior quarried on site and extensive use of native koa wood, and is one of the few examples of Romanesque Richardsonian style museum buildings to have survived essentially unchanged;

Whereas Hawaiian Hall, designed by noted Hawai'i architects C.B. Ripley and C.W. Dickey in 1898, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, based on its unique combination of architectural, cultural, scientific, educational, and historical significance;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of Hawaiian Hall and its exhibits by noted Hawai'i architect Glenn Mason and noted national and international museum exhibit designer Ralph Appelbaum are integral to the museum's ability to fulfill its mission and achieve its primary goal of serving and representing the interests of Native Hawaiians;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of Hawaiian Hall, begun in 2005, included the building of a new gathering place in an enclosed, glass walled atrium, improved access to the hall through the installation of an elevator in the new atrium to all 3 floors of the hall and other buildings in the Hawaiian Hall Complex, improved collection preservation through the installation of new, state-of-the-art environmental controls, lighting, security, and fire suppression systems, and restored original woodwork and metalwork;

Whereas the restoration and renovation of the hall's exhibits bring multiple voices and a Native Hawaiian perspective to bear on Bishop Museum's treasures, by conveying the essential values, beliefs, complexity, and achievements of Hawaiian culture through exquisite and fragile artifacts in a setting that emphasizes their "mana" (power and essence) and the place in which they were created;

Whereas the new exhibit incorporates contemporary Native Hawaiian artwork illustrating traditional stories, legends, and practices, and contemporary Native Hawaiian voices interpreting the practices and traditions through multiple video presentations;

Whereas the new exhibit features more than 2,000 objects and images from the museum's collections on the open floor, mezzanines, and the center space, conceptually organized to represent 3 traditional realms or "wao" of the Hawaiian world—Kai Ākea, the expansive sea from which gods and people came, Wao Kānaka, the realm of people,

and Wao Lani, the realm of gods and the "ali'i" (chiefs) who descended from them;

Whereas the new exhibit's ending display celebrates the strength, glory, and achievements of Native Hawaiians with a large 40-panel mural titled "Ho'ohuli, To Cause An Overturning, A Change", made by students of Native Hawaiian charter schools in collaboration with Native Hawaiian artists and other students, and interpreted by Native Hawaiian artists and teachers in a video presentation; and

Whereas the people of the United States wish to convey their sincerest appreciation to Bishop Museum for its service and devotion: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the reopening of historic Hawaiian Hall on the 120th anniversary of the founding of Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawai'i; and

(2) on the occasions of the reopening and anniversary of the museum, honors and praises Bishop Museum for its work to ensure the preservation, study, education, and appreciation of Native Hawaiian culture and history.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a resolution that recognizes the Bishop Museum on its 120th Anniversary and celebrates the reopening of its historic Hawaiian Hall.

The Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop in honor of his late wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, the last descendant of the royal Kamehameha family. The museum was established to house the extensive collection of Hawaiian artifacts and royal family heirlooms of the Princess, and has expanded to include millions of artifacts, documents and photographs about Hawaii and other Pacific island cultures.

Today, the Bishop Museum is the largest museum in the State of Hawaii and the premier natural and cultural history institution in the Pacific, recognized throughout the world for its cultural collections, research projects, consulting services and public educational programs. It also has one of the largest natural history specimen collections in the world. The museum provides a great service to the State of Hawaii and I commend them for their long time commitment of serving and representing the interests of native Hawaiians.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 196—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN IRAN

Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BUNNING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 196

Whereas since the June 12 Iranian presidential elections, there have been increased restrictions on freedom of the press in Iran and limitations on the free flow of information among the Iranian people;

Whereas newspapers and news services have been restricted by the Government of Iran, preventing the publication of specific articles, blocking the transmission of some